

configured to store computer-readable instructions, sensor values, and other persistent software elements.

[0130] In this example, the processing unit 902 is operable to read computer-readable instructions stored on the memory 904 and/or computer-readable media 906. The computer-readable instructions may adapt the processing unit 902 to perform the operations or functions described above with respect to FIGS. 2A-2J. The computer-readable instructions may be provided as a computer-program product, software application, or the like.

[0131] As shown in FIG. 9, the device 900 also includes a display 908 and an input device 909. The display 908 may include a liquid-crystal display (LCD), organic light-emitting diode (OLED) display, light-emitting diode (LED) display, or the like. If the display 908 is an LCD, the display may also include a backlight component that can be controlled to provide variable levels of display brightness. If the display 908 is an OLED or LED type display, the brightness of the display 908 may be controlled by modifying the electrical signals that are provided to display elements.

[0132] The input device 909 is configured to provide user input to the device 900. The input device 909 may include, for example, a touch screen, touch button, keyboard, key pad, or other touch input device. The device 900 may include other input devices, including, for example, a power button, volume buttons, home buttons, scroll wheels, and camera buttons.

[0133] As shown in FIG. 9, the device 900 also includes an adaptive input row 910. The adaptive input row 910 may be operatively coupled to the processing unit 902 and memory 904 in order to provide user input similar to the input device 909. The adaptive input row 910 may also be configured to provide an adaptable display that may be controlled by the processing unit 902 or other aspect of the device 900. In general, the adaptive input row 910 may be configured to operate in accordance with the various examples provided herein.

[0134] The foregoing description, for purposes of explanation, used specific nomenclature to provide a thorough understanding of the described embodiments. However, it will be apparent to one skilled in the art that the specific details are not required in order to practice the described embodiments. Thus, the foregoing descriptions of the specific embodiments described herein are presented for purposes of illustration and description. They are not targeted to be exhaustive or to limit the embodiments to the precise forms disclosed. It will be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art that many modifications and variations are possible in view of the above teachings.

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic device comprising:

- a housing;
- a keyboard positioned at least partially within the housing; and
- an adaptive input row positioned along a side of the keyboard and comprising:
 - a cover for receiving a touch;
 - a display positioned below the cover and configured to present an adaptable set of indicia;
 - a touch sensor configured to detect a location of the touch; and
 - a force sensor configured to detect a magnitude of a force of the touch.

2. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein:

the housing includes an upper portion pivotally coupled to a lower portion;

a primary display is positioned within the upper portion of the housing;

the keyboard is positioned within the lower portion of the housing;

the adaptive input row is positioned adjacent to a number row of the keyboard; and

a track pad is positioned along a lower side of the keyboard opposite to the adaptive input row.

3. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein:

multiple user-input regions are defined along a length of the cover;

a first user-input region of the multiple user-input regions is responsive to the touch in a first input mode; and

the first user-input region is not responsive to the touch in a second input mode.

4. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein:

the force sensor is positioned below the display; and

the force sensor includes a pair of capacitive electrodes separated by a compressible layer.

5. The electronic device of claim 4, wherein the force sensor is configured to provide a seal to prevent an ingress of moisture or liquid into an internal volume of the adaptive input row.

6. The electronic device of claim 4, wherein:

the pair of capacitive electrodes is a first pair of capacitive electrodes disposed at a first end of the display;

the adaptive input row further comprises a second pair of capacitive electrodes disposed at a second end of the display;

the electronic device further comprises sensor circuitry operatively coupled to the first and second pairs of capacitive electrodes; and

the sensor circuitry is configured to output a signal that corresponds to the location of the touch on the cover based on a relative amount of deflection between the first and second pairs of capacitive electrodes.

7. The electronic device of claim 1, wherein:

the force sensor is positioned below the display; and

the force sensor comprises an array of force-sensitive structures arranged along a length of the adaptive input row.

8. The electronic device of claim 1, further comprising:

a processing unit positioned within the housing; and

a primary display positioned at least partially within the housing and configured to display a graphical-user interface generated by the processing unit.

9. A user input device comprising:

a set of alpha-numeric keys; and

an adaptive input row positioned adjacent to the set of alpha-numeric keys and comprising:

a cover;

a display positioned below the cover; and

a sensor configured to detect a location of a touch on the cover, wherein:

the display is configured to display a first set of indicia when the user input device is operated in a first input mode;

output from the sensor is interpreted as a first set of commands when in the first input mode;

the display is configured to display a second set of indicia when the device is operated in a second input mode; and